

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 COLOMB 03617 091135Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 ISO-00 CPR-03 SSC-01 CIAE-00 INR-10
NSAE-00 DODE-00 /035 W
-----011890 100149Z /21
R 090930Z AUG 78
FM AMEMBASSY COLOMBO
TO USLO PEKING
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 1074
AMCONSUL HONG KONG

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE COLOMBO 3617

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PINR, CE
SUBJECT: RHITRA DIAS DESINGHE-SRI LANKA'S AMBASSADOR-DESIGNATE
TO PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA

1. DESINGHE, BORN IN 1931, IS TALL AND HEFTY FOR A SRI LANKA, ABOUT 6 FEET, 200 POUNDS. HE IS A PROMINENT CRIMINAL LAWYER IN SRI LANKA'S SECOND LARGEST CITY, KANDY. A BUDDHIST, DESINGHE IS MARREID AND HAS THREE SONS. HIS WIFE'S NAME IS RATNA. HE SPEAKS EXCELLENT ENGLISH AND WAS A FREQUENT VISITOR TO THE AMERICAN CENTER IN KANDY. THE DESINGHES REPORTEDLY ENJOY SOCIALIZING WITH AMERICANS. HE PLAYS POKER, DRINKS ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES, AND HAS NO KNOWN DIETARY RESTRICTIONS. DESINGHE IS AN AVID READER AND PLAYS TENNIS AND BILLIARDS. HE IS DESCRIBED AS FRIENDLY AND OPEN AS GENERALLY PRO-AMERICAN.

2. A LONG-TIME SUPPORTER OF THE RULING UNITED NATIONAL PARTY (UNP), DESINGHE IS TREASURER OF THE UNP COMMITTEE FOR THE KANDY AREA. HE HAS NO NATIONAL REPUTATION OR EXPERIENCE IN INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS. PRESUMABLY HE WAS SELECTED FOR THE AMBASSADORIAL POST
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PAGE 02 COLOMB 03617 091135Z

BECAUSE OF HIS PARTY ACTIVITIES AND LOYALTY.
WRIGGINS

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: AMBASSADOR DESIGNATE, AMBASSADORS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 09 aug 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: e3f16d66-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
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Review Exemptions: n/a
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Review Release Date: n/a
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Subject: RHITRA DIAS DESINGHE-SRI LANKA'S AMBASSADOR-DESIGNATE TO PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA
TAGS: PINR, CE
To: PEKING
Type: TE
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